

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended for clarity.

Claims 1-8 have also been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Davidson. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention requires a second connection for the transmission of signaling information between the calling subscriber terminal and the accepting subscriber terminal of the subscriber group in the digital telecommunications switching center. Davidson, on the other hand, is directed to information regarding the switch hook status of a subscriber terminal being determined by reading the status information of subscribers in a memory and sending it to a coverage terminal. To this point, the Examiner argues that "setting up a connection is extremely an inherent feature." Although setting up a connection may indeed occur in Davidson, there is no disclosure that teaches a separate connection for transmission of signaling information between a calling subscriber terminal and an accepting subscriber terminal. If such disclosure exists, we kindly ask the Examiner to direct Applicant's attention to same.

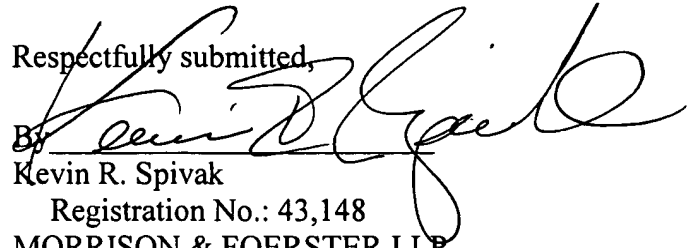
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.449122026200.

However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: June 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin R. Spivak", is written over a horizontal line.

By Kevin R. Spivak

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